

Senate Executive Committee Meeting Minutes



Senate Executive Committee (SEC) Meeting Monday, March 3, 2025 -- 3:15pm (In Person: WAB 227)

Present: M. McKerral, S. Bonis, E. Kondratieff, A. Jerome, S. Riehn, J. Logsdon, S. Flener, K. Smith, G. Ellis-Griffith, R. Ayers, M. Pruitt, S. Spiller, B. Fischer

Guests: R. Hale, J. Hammonds, M. Kerby, J. Smith

A. Approve minutes of previous month's SEC Meeting:

1. [SEC Meeting Minutes, 2.10.25](#)

1st/ 2nd Pruitt/Jerome; motion passes (unanimous)

B. Officer Reports

1. Chair - Mac McKerral
 - a. Didn't meet with Caboni in February but McKerral shares his encouragement for leadership to speak up regarding pending legislation
2. Vice Chair - Dan Clark
 - a. McKerral updated that Clark is running departmental elections
3. Secretary - Sarah Bonis

C. Standing Committee Reports:

1. Academic Quality, Tracy Jenkins (Chair): (No Report)
2. [Budget and Finance, Eric J. Kondratieff \(Chair\): \(Report Posted\)](#)

Motion to include: Kondratieff; motion passes (unanimous)

3. [Colonnade/General Education, Angie Jerome \(Chair\): \(Report Posted\)](#)

Motion to include: Jerome; motion passes (unanimous)

4. [Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities, Stephanie Riehn \(Chair\): \(Report Posted\)](#)

Motion to include: Riehn; motion passes (unanimous)

5. [Graduate Council, Jeremy Logsdon \(Chair\): \(Report Posted\)](#)

Motion to include: Logsdon; motion passes (unanimous)

6. [Graduate Council Curriculum Committee, Whitley Stone \(Chair\) \(Report Posted\)](#)

Motion to include: Logsdon; motion passes (unanimous)

7. [Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Shelia Flener \(Chair\): \(Report Posted\)](#)

Motion to include: Flener; motion passes (unanimous)

8. [Faculty Handbook, Julie Shadoan \(Chair\): \(Report Posted\)](#)

Motion to include 1st/2nd: Jerome/Logsdon; motion passes (unanimous)

D. Other Committee/Organization Reports:

1. American Association of University Professors (AAUP)
2. Budget Executive Committee (BEC)
3. Coalition of Senate and Faculty Leadership (COSFL)
4. ONE WKU, Molly Kerby (Chair)

E. Old Business:

F. New Business:

1. [Handbook VII.A.3 Procedure for Dismissal for Cause](#)

Motion to move to Senate and endorse from SEC 1st/2nd : Flener/Pruitt; motion passes (unanimous)

2. [Handbook VIII.A. Faculty Grievance](#)

Motion to move to Senate and endorse from SEC 1st/2nd: Pruitt/Flener; motion passes (unanimous)

G. Advisory Member Reports:

1. Faculty Regent, Shane Spiller

Because of changes in board schedule, next committee meeting is day of graduation and quarterly meeting will be in June (P&T has to be completed by May 15 so will be a special called meeting – just because of handbook timeline, no other reason).

2. Provost, Robert "Bud" Fischer

Third year of faculty omnibus, will open up in the fall for anyone interested. Michelle

Jones has done a great job and has met with 12 individuals.

Congratulate Zach Serano – NSF CAREER award, first ever at WKU.

Academic side of VSIP is done – 30% was given back to colleges in proportion to how many people they lost, as well as what did the two iterations of VSIPs look like over the total of people lost across those two.

CoA putting out letters to federal government.

Top Grant proposal presentations on March 12th.

Director of Honors College position has been advertised.

Wellness committee (chaired by Susan Howarth) is on campus – looking for additional representatives.

Gave D. Clark summer & winter enrollment data – he is looking at it.

3. SGA President, Sam Kurtz

Applications for WKU Bluegrass Leadership Scholarship for seniors in HS, closes in about a month. Goal is people in student council, president of club, captain of sports team, etc.

For most students: priority concerns are affordability, mental health, and campus safety, based on who SGA has talked to informally.

April 13th is SGA election, will kickoff election on South Lawn that Sunday evening with student performances.

Anticipates (maybe for the first time ever) SGA spending 100% of budget.

Pruitt: consider student performance events as an ongoing, monthly event instead of something like Shaq or Flo Rida. Campus Activities Board has the funds and oversees events, SGA working with CAB about possible collaboration and programming. \$5,000 just for police coverage if there is alcohol available.

H. Information Item:

Motion to remove from salary date from agenda, 1st/2nd: Kondratieff/Jerome; passes (unanimous)

I. Items for the benefit of the body

Jennifer Smith (WKU Legislative Liaison) and Molly Kerby visited to share legislation updates at the federal and state level. HB 4: have explained concerns to legislators and others that we have to protect academic freedom and accreditation. This appears to be without attack in the current iteration. Lack of understanding regarding accrediting bodies with legislators. Bill currently has a lot of exemptions (e.g., accreditation). Meeting tomorrow morning at 10:00am. HB 424 has passed the House, is in the Senate – have not heard any Senate discussions yet. HB 427 is about transfer pathways and is being monitored.